

CLAIMS:

1. A method of moulding which comprises opening a mould by separating one mould component from another mould component to provide a space which opens upwardly and a lower part of which space is in the form of a well, feeding a charge of mouldable material into said space from above so that the charge falls into the well, closing the mould by displacing said components into contact with one another thereby to define a closed moulding cavity which is extended downwardly by said well, and reducing the volume of said well by displacing a plunger which bounds the bottom of the well relatively to the mould components thereby to displace mouldable material from said well into said moulding cavity and fill said moulding cavity.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1 and comprising displacing the plunger upwardly relatively to said mould components to reduce the volume of said well.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1 and comprising displacing said mould components downwardly with respect to the plunger to reduce the volume of said well.
4. A method as claimed in claim 3 and comprising displacing an upper mould component downwardly into contact with a lower mould component thereby to close said moulding cavity, and displacing said components in unison downwardly with respect to said plunger whilst maintaining said plunger in a fixed position.

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5. A method as claimed in claim 2 and comprising displacing an upper mould component downwardly into contact with a lower mould component thereby to close said moulding cavity, and thereafter displacing said plunger upwardly relatively to said mould components.
6. A method as claimed in claim 1 and comprising displacing a lower mould component and said plunger upwardly as a unit towards a fixed upper mould component until said lower mould component contacts said upper mould component, and thereafter displacing said plunger upwardly with respect to the stationary mould components.
7. A method as claimed in claim 1, and comprising displacing a lower mould component and said plunger upwardly as a unit towards a fixed upper mould component until said lower mould component contacts said upper mould component, immobilizing said plunger, and thereafter forcing said mould components downwardly with respect to said immobilized plunger.
8. Moulding apparatus comprising an upper mould component, a lower mould component, means for displacing said components between a closed position in which they bound a moulding cavity and an open position in which the lower component defines an upwardly open space, a lower part of said space being in the form of a well which, when the mould components are in contact, constitutes a downward extension of said moulding cavity, means for feeding a charge of mouldable material into said cavity so that it falls into said well, a plunger forming the

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bottom of said well, and means for displacing said mould components and said plunger relatively to one another thereby to reduce the volume of the well and displace mouldable material out of said well and into said moulding cavity.

9. Moulding apparatus as claimed in claim 8, and including means for displacing said plunger upwardly with respect to the lower mould component to reduce the volume of said well and displace mouldable material out of said well and into said moulding cavity.

10. Moulding apparatus as claimed in claim 8 and including means for immobilizing said plunger and means for displacing said mould components downwardly with respect to the plunger to reduce the volume of said well and displace mouldable material out of said well and into said moulding cavity.

11. A method of moulding which comprises feeding a charge of mouldable material into the cavity of a female mould structure comprising a fixed shaft and a reciprocable female mould, closing said cavity by inserting the spigot of a male mould into said cavity, and displacing said male mould and said female mould with respect to said shaft so that the shaft slides into said cavity, said spigot, an end surface of said shaft and surfaces of the female mould defining a mould cavity having the shape of the article to be produced.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11, and comprising providing said spigot with a protruding rib which extends along the spigot at that end of the spigot which is

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last to enter the cavity, said rib contacting the female mould whereby a slit is moulded into said article.

13. A method as claimed in claim 11 and comprising providing a rib on said female mould, which rib contacts said spigot when the spigot is in the female mould.

14. A method as claimed in claim 12 or 13 and comprising providing a plurality of ribs which are spaced apart circumferentially thereby to mould an array of slits.

15. A cap comprising a skirt, a transverse end wall at one end of the skirt, and a band at the other end of the skirt, the band being connected to the skirt by a plurality of bridges, the inner diameter of the band and the outer diameter of the skirt being such that the skirt can be forced into the band, the portion of the skirt that enters the band having slits therein which are open at the free edge of the skirt.

16. A method of capping a container which comprises pressing a cap as defined in claim 15 onto the neck of the container so that the bridges break and the skirt slides into the band, the band causing said slits to close-up whereby protruding formations on the inside of the band interlock with a protruding formation on the container to prevent the cap being removed without breaking the band.

17. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said band has a line of weakness so that it breaks upon pressure being applied thereto sufficient to slide it

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off the skirt.